SUPER SOCCER

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No 1

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE NSW SOCCER FEDERATION $2

NEW SOUTH WALES
SUPER LEAGUE
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All matches - see pages 12, 13
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SUPER SOCCER SEASON

Crystal Balls have been worked overtime as the fans try to forecast the ultimate Premiers and Top Five Grand Final winners for the 1992 NSW Super League competition.

Sutherland Shire laid an early foundation for their 1991 season, and this year coach Bill Rigby has set his sights on a Top Five berth at the least.

Their opening gambit against Lube Jancev's reliable Rockdale Ilinden at Seymour Shaw on Saturday night could tell a lot about the prospects of either team.

Rockdale has Keith Warren in goal, with ex-Socceroo defender George Jolevski joining up for the season.

Grand final honours holders Blacktown City might not feel pressure from the replacement of Ron Corry with Ken Schembri.

Tony Lemezina, Andy Ravanello and the craftsman Andrew Young will be amongst the Canberra Metro side to give the Demons a warm welcome to Deakin Oval on Sunday.

Both clubs seem destined to be amongst the leading contenders for end of season honours.

Adamstown's home game on Saturday night features Mike Johnson's Avala.

Peter Vukmirovic is beginning the season strongly for Avala, whilst the Rosebuds aim to distinguish themselves in NSW company after winning five straight premierships in Northern NSW.

In a match of the day system the Sydney Macedonia-Canterbury clash at Jensen Park could well have pride of place.

Nick Orlic and Vlado Zoric have made a big impression with the Berries' fans.

Scott Gilbert and Zoki Adioski stand out as potential scorers for Macedonia.

Don't fail to rate comeback team St George, as Dez Marton has gathered an enthusiastic squad together.

But their first opponents Wollongong Macedonia have Zlatko Nastevski in their camp, and he is one of the most feared strikers in the Commonwealth.

Warringah's John McKie is as hungry as ever for goals, and the club might have Jose Iriate back in their ranks as well.

Eastern Suburbs have keen midfielders Craig Sharpley and Paul Harriott, and strong campaigners such as Eric Ferguson and the skyscraper of a goalkeeper Les Bihari for their first tilt in top ranks.

Everything points to a highly competitive and entertaining season.

WELCOME

We are delighted to include you as a member of the new weekly SUPER SOCCER magazine family

This is issue No 1, and surely a collector's item for a publication which is designed to be retained as a regular permanent record of your passion for local soccer down the years.

At last, with the co-operation of so many clubs, this ambition has now been realised.

Our aim is to increase the coverage and features, and give you absorbing news and program information.

SUPER SOCCER is being distributed through selected newsagents, as well as through NSW Super League and Federation Division One club.s

We look forward to your continued weekly support for SUPER SOCCER, in which you will certainly receive the latest news and views on the game

GOLDEN BOOTS AWARD

Leading the goal-scorers' list over a season is one of the greatest honours available to any footballer.

This year, by courtesy of Patrick Sportswear and Sporting Supplies (Aust) Pty Ltd, the top goalscorer in the NSW Super League will receive the Golden Boots Award.

The Patrick range of soccer jerseys, shorts, track-suits, track pants and other sporting wear and equipment is known Australia-wide for its high standing and quality.

In 1991 the honours were shared by Sutherland's Grant Bard and Lawrie McKinna of Blacktown City on 13 goals.

Injury has robbed McKinna of the chance to make an early challenge this year

The field is wide open, and the contest to lead at the end of the Premiership will be contested right down to the wire.

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Progress is the Name of the Game

The 1992 season is destined to mark a gigantic step forward for all those involved with the operation of the NSW Soccer Federation.

One special reason for this statement is the way in which the clubs generally – and particularly those of our Blue Riband NSW Super League competition – are working so effectively in every department of the game.

There is no doubt that they will be presenting the fans with an enhanced standard of play this year.

In addition you have only to think back a few seasons and make comparisons to appreciate the amazing changes that have taken place in the standard of our football grounds.

Apart from the well known upgradings by Avala and Blacktown City, Sutherland Shire and Warringah Dolphins have happily also moved ahead.

Sydney Macedonia's ground is now rectangular, and Rockdale Ilinden will be opening their new arena at Barton Park before the end of the year.

Super Soccer Player

Scott Baillie

In addition NSW Super League will be played on such high class stadiums as Sydney Athletic Field, St George Stadium, Brandon Park and Adamstown Oval, plus the well known Arlington and Deakin Ovals.

All this is a further bonus for both players and fans.

The same situation applies to Federation Division One, where clubs have such fine grounds as Wentworth Park, Garside Park, Mona Park, Potts Park, Christie Park, and the improved Pluim Park at Ourimbah on the Central Coast.

Their competition got away to a successful start on February 29.

With regard to the players, a greater tendency has emerged to depend upon the increasingly football-wise products who have grown up and received their coaching here in Australia.

We all know how much this means for the progress of football in the State.

It is noteworthy that further plans are under discussion which are designed, in co-operation with the NSW Amateur Soccer federation, to improve the supply and quality of youth players for the benefit of all clubs.

There are many other improvements in the pipeline. They include:

• An enhanced interstate games program which will involve leading players of both the Coca-Cola League and the NSW Super League.

Peter Gray, NSW President

• A dramatic boost to prize money for the various competitions, which will this year amount to $100,000 as against $48,000 in 1991.

• Greatly increased marketing activity, together with the issue of the new Super Soccer magazine with the support of the public and our leading clubs.

May I extend the very best wishes of the NSW Board to all, for what will certainly be a highly competitive and exciting season.

Peter Gray, President.

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SUTHERLAND SHIRE

- Sutherland's success in winning the 1991 Premiership has had a marked effect locally, with numerous requests for players to attend registration days for local clubs. Because most clubs held their registrations on the same day, it was not possible to accept all invitations to attend. However many clubs were visited in yet another successful publicity exercise for the Sutherland Shire Sharks.

☆☆☆☆

- With the signing of Derek Noffke, the promising young goal-keeper from St George, Sutherland is in the almost unique position of having brothers competing for custodian honours. Derek joins brother Nigel, the popular first team keeper, in the 1992 squad.

☆☆☆☆

- Sutherland striker Grant Bard has made a successful transition to NSL football by becoming a regular member of the Wollongong Wolves first team, where he is beginning to find the net for them. With the Wolves very much in contention for a finals spot, 1991-92 should be a memorable year for him. A key member of the Wolves team is also local resident Mike O'Shea, who played a significant part in Sutherland's success last season when he came on loan from St George.

☆☆☆☆

- Sutherland has become home for the well known and popular O'Shea brothers of St George renown, with John again coaching the U19 team and Robert taking the field again as captain of the first team. Hopes are high that Mike will turn out in the club's colours for another season, thereby continuing the successful O'Shea reunion

SYDNEY MACEDONIA

- Sydney Macedonia started preparations for the 1992 Super League competition without the likes of Billy Pilovski, Fabian Kadric and Sasho Spirovski but despite these losses the club is looking for a top five spot. It has some excellent youth coming through the ranks, and with the acquisition of one or two experienced players, should achieve its goals. The club will complete negotiations with several players but there has been only a few major signings.

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- Frank Lang has been reappointed 1st grade coach and he will be assisted by Dennis Madden who has joined the club this year. Alex Maglouski has been put in charge of the U19s once again.

☆☆☆☆

- The Club's home base at Jensen Park has undergone ground improvements in line with federation requirements. An open grandstand, field fencing, scoreboard and referees' tunnel have been erected. Many of the club's loyal supporters have been working overtime and have made sure that the ground is ready for the season kick off.

☆☆☆☆

- Macedonia's top marksman Scott Gilbert has been appointed Development Co-ordinator. He will be assisted by other players Anthony Surjan, Matthew Hoare and George Fernandez.

BLACKTOWN CITY

- 1992 signings for the Demons include Steve Berry, a former Blacktown Youth product who has spent the last two seasons with Avala. Berry is a versatile midfielder who can also find the goal. Also Pat Bradley has returned from England, where he played some games with Bury after gaining a traineeship.

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- The position of first team goalkeeper has been hotly contested. Last year's leading keeper Mike Gibson, formerly with St George and the Socceroos, is now with Newcastle Breakers. Could this be the big year for young Andrew Crews? He showed out well in the Seven-a-Side. Trialling with the club is New Zealand's second string keeper, Alan Stroud from Christchurch, who is coming into form after the New Zeland summer seasonal break.

☆☆☆☆

- Ken Schembri, who succeeded Ron Corry as club coach, is a Demons product. He coached Youth League teams for several years before taking charge of the reserve team three seasons ago.

☆☆☆☆

- Assisting Schembri will be Lawrie McKinna, who is back in light training as he continues to recover from a broken leg. He is determined to make his way back through the reserves, but he certainly won't rush his return.

CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE

- Canterbury has Ross Pinto in goal this year – the custodian who has built up a tremendous reputation over the years in the lower divisions. Obviously coach Rale Rasic expects a great deal from him this season.

☆☆☆☆

- Towering over other members of the Canterbury Marrickville Olympic side is defender Nick Orlic. He not only has the height, he also has a deal of skill and can move very quickly with his passing. Rival teams will find that he packs a tremendous shot as well.

☆☆☆☆

- Spiro Hantzis left a pair of top quality football boots in the dressing room at the Gabbie Stadium on Seven-a-Side day. He would be glad to learn if they have turned up, because, of course, they certainly don't grow on trees.

☆☆☆☆

- Utility man Burim Zajmi is looking the part, having settled into the club remarkably quickly. He has football craft galore, and will be one of the players to provide real experience as the club buckles down for what they hope will be a very fruitful season.

☆☆☆☆

- Work commitments have caused Angelo Hronopoulos to give up the secretaryship of the club. He has been creating a tremendous impression with his enthusiasm in all areas of club administration and publicity, and many people were very sorry to see him go.

ST GEORGE

- The Saints open their season at St George Stadium on Saturday with a tremendous promotion. To indicate their reborn close connection with the St George Soccer Association, there will be a march past of local Junior Clubs, with parents of the children attending on the day admitted free. Steve Koenig heads up the committee which has taken over from private company control and which is now under the wing of the St George Budapest Soccer Club of Mortdale.

☆☆☆☆

- Des Marton is expecting great things of sweeper Jason Mammone this season. Mammone is extremely good on the ball, and threatens to line up something worthwhile every time he is in possession.

☆☆☆☆

- The transfer of Sean Lahiff from Newcastle Breakers was finalised last week. Lahiff, a Manly-Warringah product, has played professional football in Finland. He tried out with a number of English clubs, but lack of a work permit finally ended his spell there. Negotiations are in hand with Australian Olympic Games goalkeeper John Filan, with Wollongong City also involved as he is on loan to them.

☆☆☆☆

- Dez Marton has planned a midfield general role for Andelko Skulic, a recent arrival from Croatia. But there are problems to be overcome. He needs an international clearance, and is facing the need for arthroscopic surgery on his knee.

.....Steve Kaye

EASTERN SUBURBS UTD

- The club believes that the switch of name from Waverley – a small component of Sydney's Eastern Suburbs area – will lead to a much bigger exposure of the club in the game. The broadening of base is continuing. Club activities will centre on Coogee Bowling Club in Dolphin Street, Coogee, for after the game get-togethers and social occasions.

☆☆☆☆

- Easts' coach Alex Robertson had to cull out a group of over 60 players who were keen to join up once it was known that the district would be part of the NSW Super League. One of the big attractions was the chance to play on the Sydney Athletic Field (ES Marks Field), where the playing pitch is a dream, and covered grandstand accommodation and viewing is amongst the best in the code in NSW.

☆☆☆☆

- The club has strong hopes that 21 year old invaluable utility man Mike Smith will return after a season in the Coca-Cola League with Wollongong Wolves. Smith, a visa player, is strong in defence and in the air, and has the ability to collect his quota of goals.

☆☆☆☆

- Easts reckon that their red, white and blue flecked shirts are more attractive than those even of the Socceroos! The white band on the front is wide open for a suitable sponsor's name. One dipped out when about to sign up, and other possibilities are being canvassed.

.....Karen Grega

ROCKDALE ILINDEN

- A Commonwealth Government grant of $100,000 and a further $25,000 from the NSW Government has been received to assist towards the development of the new arena at North Barton Park, just north of the St George Stadium location. All hands have been on deck, working to meet the projected completing date of the first stage of development on August 2.

☆☆☆☆

- All is in order for George Jolevki to appear with Rockdale Ilinden this year. He has been with Sydney Croatia in the Coca-Cola League, and formerly played with Preston. The capable defender has chalked up five Socceroo appearances. Mike Grbevski and Keith Warren will help to complete what should be a formidable defence. Warren rejoined the club after a term in Hong Kong on business.

☆☆☆☆

- The re-signing of Bruno Beddoni – expected to partner Stewart Porter at the front – ensures that the club will have a formidable attack force. The only loss for the season is stalwart Darren Wilson, who has to put extra time into additional education to further his career with Telecom.

☆☆☆☆

- Some players who have come through the Rockdale youth ranks are emerging as first team prospects. Coach Lube Jancev has high hopes concerning the potential of young Kenny Boskovski as one example of what is being accomplished.

.....Jim Trajcevski

ADAMSTOWN ROSEBUD

- The Rosebuds begin the season without the services of ace striker David Bock. The Northern NSW Player of the Year last season, he has a knee problem and has arranged for an arthroscope examination by Dr Tony Halpin, a former Newcastle sports specialist now resident in Sydney. When fit, the tall lanky Bock packs a lethal "punch" in either foot.

☆☆☆☆

- All Adamstown Rosebud players come from the Newcastle/Lake Macquarie area. One new signing, Lionel King, is a promising young forward who hails from the Coalfields area and Weston Bears club. Looking an excellent prospect is big striker Brett Eldridge, who shone in the trial against Blacktown City.

☆☆☆☆

- Coach Neville Power has seen Adamstown to five Northern Premierships in succession and also to a Grand Final win last winter. He had NSL experience with the former Newcastle Rosebud. Assistant coach Greg Smith, who was with Western Suburbs in Sydney as a midfielder some years ago, is again Power's assistant, whilst former player Phil Ridley has been appointed team manager.

☆☆☆☆

- It's first season at Adamstown for former Australian schoolboy international, Dean McWhirter. Signed from Newcastle BHP Breakers where he had some National League experience, McWhirter also had a spell in Sydney.

.....Paul Colver

WARRINGAH DOLPHINS

- The Warringah Dolphins' launch appropriately will be down on Dee Why Beach, the purpose being to celebrate the birth of the new Warringah Dolphins club. The location is certainly appropriate, and the fare will include a barbecue, lobsters and prawns.

☆☆☆☆

- The Dolphins have filled their on loan quota by bringing in Sydney Olympic's Pablo Cardozo and Grant Lee. Cardozo, playing wide left at present, is also a very talented striker, who could well find the net regularly in Super League company. If he gets amongst the goals he will be the hottest of property when the 1992/3 NSL season comes around. Lee is a tireless player who has given yeoman service to the club next year, and in addition he is a local.

☆☆☆☆

- There is plenty of joy in the Dolphins' camp, as Jose Iriate is rejoining them after spending the Coca Cola League season with Sydney Croatia. In 1991 Iriate won both the Federation Best and Fairest Medal and the Players' Player of the Year award.

☆☆☆☆

- The Dolphins were fixed up for a last trial game with the Johor side from Malaysia, who had games lined up in NSW and Queensland. The matches fell through when the Malaysians somehow failed to get visas from the Commonwealth authorities.

AVALA

- Alexander Filipovic, a midfielder who has been playing in the United States, is joining Avala. He is the brother of well known Futsal (Indoor SOCCER) Australian international Radovan (Sisko) Filipovic. The catch at the moment is to secure his clearance from the US Soccer Association, but the club hopes it will be through in time for him to take his place in the side against Adamstown Rosebud in Newcastle on Saturday night.

☆☆☆☆

- Burly defender Andrew Brockbank could be playing at the Servian Centre, as soon as his transfer from Blacktown City can be finalised. The club is also hoping the clearance will come through from Yugoslavia for their Red Star Belgrade recruit, Alexander Jankovic.

☆☆☆☆

- Dragon Pupovac, Avala's outstanding goalkeeper, has done the rounds. Originally a Youth League player with Avala, he went on to Parramatta Melita Eagles, Canterbury, St George, and back to his original club.

☆☆☆☆

- Tall Peter Vukmirovic – the man with the seven league boots – has usually played his football as a stopper, with his superb heading ability, coach Mike Johnson sees him succeeding as a striker, even though it may take him some time to fully settle to the task. Vukmirovic, who originally started out as a little kiddie with Apia juniors, is having his third year with Avala.

☆☆☆☆

- Mirko Radosavljevic, the key man in the Avala defence, will lead the team in its 1992 NSW Super League campaign. He suffered an injury in the Seven-a-Side competition at the Gabbie Stadium last Sunday week with David Fitzharris taking over his role as skipper of the side.

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA

- Zekjko Jurin, the wing striker who has also had experience lately in defence, is rejoining Wollongong Macedonia. The arrangements made with Sydney Croatia mean that he is available to the Wollongong club for the coming Super League season.

☆☆☆☆

- Jason Dunn will be another big gain for the 1992 campaign. The Canberra-based stopper with National League experience will train at home and join Macedonia for their matches.

☆☆☆☆

- Wollongong Macedonia is taking over control of the former Ironworkers Club in Crown Street, Wollongong as their licensed club. Considerable work is taking place to renovate the premises. The aim is to have them open for business by mid to late April.

☆☆☆☆

- Watch out for big performances by Lupco Dimov and John Cavanah this year. Cavanah's career includes playing National League for Newcastle Rosebud as well as for his present club. Whilst the club won't be in a position to spend a fortune on its 1992 campaign, negotiations are advanced for two National League players to join them as soon as possible.

CANBERRA METRO

- Canberra Metro coach Vic Fernandez has certainly done the coaching rounds. He handled Canberra City in the National League, coached Inter Monaro three times and Croatia Deakin twice. In addition he had two years as coach of the Tun Sing Club in Hong Kong.

☆☆☆☆

- Fernandez has also been around the Australian international scene since 1985. He was involved with coach Les Scheinflug with the Australian Youth team in Chile in 1987, and with the Under 17 team in the elimination series in New Zealand prior to their winning a place in the World finals in Portugal. At Socceroo level he assisted Scheinflug at the President's Cup in Indonesia a little over a year ago. Again he was on the job helping with team arrangements for the Australia-Sweden series here earlier this year. From 1963/70 he was one of the stars of the famous St George lineup, which included stars such as David Cliss, Manfred Schaefer, John Warren and Nick Sokoloff, and in the later stages that graceful ball artist, Atti Abonyi.

☆☆☆☆

- This year the Metros must soldier on despite the loss of John Koch and Brad Maloney to Newcastle Breakers. They also won't have Ned Zelic, now at Sydney Olympic and in the Olympic Games side, who had some six games with them last season. Local players will be called upon to fill the gaps.

EASTERN SUBURBS ARE UNITED!

by JOHN TAYLOR of the Daily Telegraph Mirror

Eastern Suburbs United coach Alex Robertson states emphatically: "We won't be the whipping boys of the Super League."

Promotion to the NSW Soccer Federation's elite competition has happened rather quickly for a club, which only two years ago took on the name of Waverly after Queen's Park, Maroubra and Bondi Marines decided that amalgamation was the best way to go.

The Lions, after losing their first two matches, went on to blitz the opposition and won the Second Division by a massive 11 points last season.

With Robertson calling the tactical moves, Bill Casey, as president, and the energetic Karen Grega selling the club, the Lions are certainly in good hands.

Robertson is not so foolish as to think that his team will be challenging for the title and Grega, in her capacity as marketing director, knows the enormous job ahead of trying to spread the name and build up supporters.

Not since the days of Sydney City has the Eastern Suburbs had a top soccer team.

But Sydney City (the Slickers) played before small audiences, with the team generously backed by the Hakoah Club.

This time it is different.

The Lions are non-ethnic and the bulk of the players were born in Australia.

Unfortunately, they don't have the backing of a rich social club, although Grega says the club has linked up with the Coogee Bowling Club.The home social base will, at least, enable the Lions to gain the total benefits from functions.

"We have to make an aggressive effort if we hope to succeed," says Grega.

"We can't sit back and say here we are and expect things to come to us.

"We will be designing poster and display them in shops, hotels and schools.

"We intend to make people aware of the Lions."

The Lions will use the Sydney Athletic Field as their home ground.

No-one knows the ground better than former Socceroo sweeper Robertson.

I must know every blade of grass there," said Robertson, who was lucky enough to play with the great Sydney City teams.

"It's a big asset for us to be playing there again," he said.

"I believe it was one of the reasons why we were successful last season. It gives us a chance to play open football and use our wide players."

Robertson admits that his players will certainly find the competition a lot tougher and faster to what they experienced last year.

"The transition will be fairly difficult but I see no reason why we can't hold our own," he said.

"Sydney Macedonia didn't bounce straight back down and I'm sure we won't either."

Robertson said he was taken aback with the number of players who turned up for the club's first training session, hoping they would win a contract.

Craig Sharpley, Declan McEvoy and possibly Paul Kay will strengthen the Lions, and Robertson expects to have Mike Smith back once his commitments have finished with Wollongong City.

"Mike is a very important part of the team with his pace and stability," Robertson says.

"Defence is an area that we will have to work on, but Wollongong City have shown in the National League that you can compensate for not having great players.

Robertson said that two players he expected to make an impact were the Jerkovic brothers, Robbie and Rudolf, who learned their soccer with the Randwick Police Boys Club.

"Fortunately we are well off for strikers. Eric Ferguson and Barry Walker provide the experience and Paul Harriot is an exciting prospect.

"He was the leading goalscorer in the second division last year," Robertson said.

I was surprised that some of our younger players weren't spotted by National League coaches last season, although they don't tend to look further than the main league. It could be different this year.

"Provided we work hard on our defence, we'll surprise a few teams."

"Robertson is over the moon that he has a goalkeeper of the calibre of Les Bihari.

"He eats up crosses," says the Lions' coach.

Little wonder. Bihari stands 199cm (6ft 6in).

"He is very colourful," says Grega.

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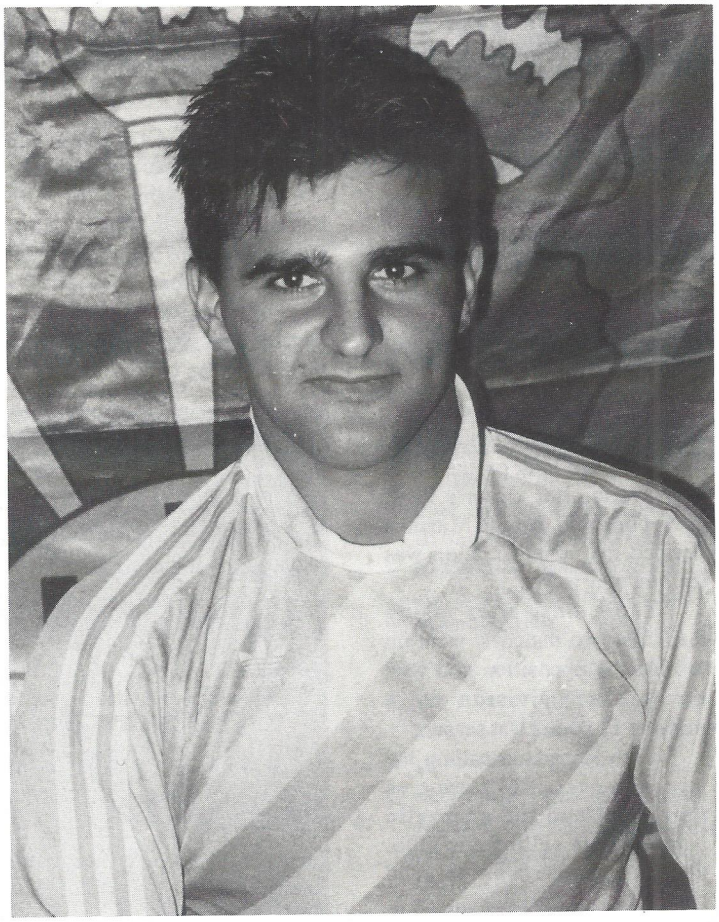
Player's name: Tony Avellino
Club: Sydney Macedonia
Full name: Tony Avellino
Date of birth: 2/4/68
Birth place: Malta
Height & weight: 178cm 80kg
Home: Toongabbie
Marital status: Single
Nickname: Ant
Occupation: Labourer Car: Corolla
Previous club: Campbelltown
Junior club/s: Marconi, Blacktown City
Greatest moment: Playing for Australian Schoolboys
Favourite position/s: Goalkeeper
Greatest influence: Brian Williamson, Bruce James
Toughest opponent: The lot
Favourite Aust Player: Tony Franken
Other sports: Golf, horses, cricket
Favourite pastimes: Fishing, golf
Best holiday spot: Great Keppel Island
Favourite TV show: LA Law
Favourite food: Pasta, Seafood
Ambitions: To be successful

SOCCER ST★R

TONY AVELLINO
Sydney Macedonia



NSW SUPERLEAGUE – ROUND 2

SUNDAY APRIL 5

BLACKTOWN CITY	Vs	ADAMSTOWN ROSEBUD	Gabbie Stadium	3pm 1pm
AVALA	Vs	ST GEORGE BSC	Serbian Centre	3pm 1pm
EASTERN SUBURBS	Vs	CANBERRA METRO	E S Marks Field	3pm 1pm
CANTERBURY MARR.	Vs	WARRINGAH DOLPHIN	Arlington Oval	3pm 1pm
ROCKDALE ILINDEN	Vs	SYDNEY MACEDONIA	St George Stadium	3pm 1pm
WOLLONGONG MAC.	Vs	SUTHERLAND SHIRE	Brandon Park	7pm 5pm

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MICHAEL COCKERILL of the Sydney Morning Herald reports:

As the revamped NSW Super League prepares to kick off, it is worth spending a moment to consider just where state soccer is heading in this country, and what role it can, and should, play.

There is no doubt, certainly, that in the right circumstances, and with the right guidance, it can make a valuable contribution to Australian soccer.

The imperative is to make sure that it does.

There are some people, including some leading administrators of state federations, who believe that the national league is a doomed concept, and that eventually the top clubs in the country will be forced to abandon a nation-wide competition in favour of state leagues.

I can't agree with this and I don't believe it should be pushed.

The NSL is a vital ingredient in improving the standard of Australian soccer – it is no coincidence that the performances of our national teams have improved dramatically since the national league was launched in 1977 – and it should be supported and encouraged by EVERYONE within the game.

In that sense the state competitions would be subordinate to the NSL, but that in no way makes them second-rate.

The switch of the NSL to summer has opened up a whole new range of possibilities for state competitions, and it is only now, as the NSL completes its third summer season, that the more visionary state federations are starting to understand the opportunities that lie before them.

They now have the entire winter all to themselves. and there is no reason why playing standards, crowd support, and eventually financial rewards, cannot be improved as a result.

Here in NSW, the state body is grasping the nettle and pushing hard to enforce the sort of off-field criteria which will determine just how far along the road of progress the Super League can go.

A decision to phase out ethnic names by next season has been widely applauded, while the move to boost prizemoney to $100,000 across all the divisions has provided plenty of incentive.

As well the improvement of ground facilities has been made a priority, and the NSWSF aims to make grants available to clubs to help them achieve their aims.

All these sort of reforms will help to promote the Super League as a viable, marketable, package and make it more appealing for the media, the public, and the all-important corporate sector.

The next step is to make what happens on the field more attractive, and that is where the difficulty lies.

It is my belief that in the context of developing soccer across the country, the various State leagues should act as feeder competitions to the NSL.

The State League clubs should become aligned to NSL clubs, not necessarily as feeders, but generally closely aligned in a relationship which would make the movement of players between the clubs free and easy.

An integral part of this process is to encourage local talent, and this is where some state federations have fallen short of their obligations.

Unfortunately these State Leagues have developed a reputation as dumping grounds for second-rate imported players.

These imports are blocking the passage of Australian players, and offering little in return, particularly at the turnstiles.

In order to address the situation, the state federations may have to legislate.

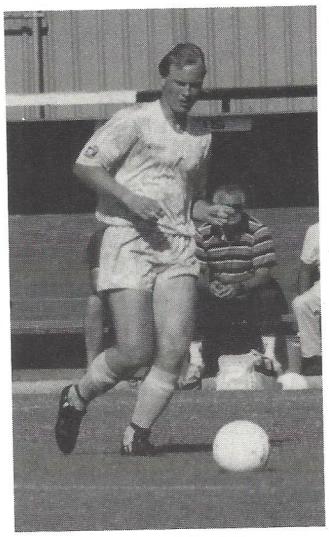
For example the way to restrict the presence of these imports would be a limit of two such players on the pitch at one time, while youth policies could be encouraged by insisting that teams must field five local players under the age of 23 in each match.

If this can be achieved, then the state competitions would become more appealing to the public at large, and they would serve a vital purpose in providing a stepping stone to the NSL for local talent.

Coupled with steady improvements off the park, and state soccer could re-assert itself as a worthwhile part of the sporting calendar.

It will take time, of course, ad a strong will from those entrusted with the job of running the state federations, but it can be achieved.

Certainly the means, and the infrastructure, exist in NSW, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia to carry out a major program of reforms.



These states are fortunate in that legacies from the past have left them with a reasonable degree of financial security – they have the resources to tackle their problems head on.

In the 15 years since the formation of the NSL, most state competitions have lost their lustre.

It is time to turn that situation around.

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ROUND 1

SATURDAY - ADAMSTOWN OVAL 7pm, 5pm

ADAMSTOWN ROSEBUD

Green and white
Alternative white, red and green

1. B DORMAN
2. C HUDSON
3. D MCWHIRTER
4. A RICHARDS
5. N OWENS
6. C JONAS
7. J MCQUARRIE
8. D ROBERTSON
9. R WELLS
10. S WELLS
11. B ELDRIDGE
12. L KING
13. .....
14. .....
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. C HARRIS

AVALA

Red, blue and white
Alternative white

1. DRAGAN PUPOVAC
2. NARIO ALEJANDRO
3. BRUNO CIARELLA
4. SCOTT ASHTON
5. MIRKO RADOSAVLJEVIC
6. TOMISLAV DIVLJAK
7. DAVID FITZHARRIS
8. BOBAN IVASTANIN
9. PETER VUKMIROVIC
10. CHRISTOPHER ACKERLY
11. TONY GENOVESE
12. TOM KRLJAR
13. ANDREW BROCKBANK
14. ALEKSANDAR FILIPOVIC
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. CHRISTIAN GONZALEZ

SATURDAY -

SUTHERLAND SHIRE

Sky blue, black and white
Alternative white and back

1. NIGEL NOFFKE
2. PAUL EDMONDS
3. ROBERT SELLAR
4. DAVID ENSOR
5. GEOFF BISOAYA
6. ROBERT O';SHEA
7. HARRY CHRISTODOULOU
8. CHRIS CONDOLEON
9. ANTHONY FRANZE
10. CHRISTIAN PHILLIS
11. DARRYL SHARP
12. TONY BRANDTMAN
13. SIMON MURRAY
14. SCOTT CONNORS
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. DEREK NOFFKE

SUNDAY -DEAKIN OVAL 3pm, 1pm

CANBERRA METRO

Red, white and blue
Alternative gold, blue trim

1. ANTHONY GIANNASCA
2. DOUG MARCINA
3. BRUCE GRASSICK
4. MLADEN ROGIC
5. ANGELO AMBROSINO
6. PETER MAZIS
7. STAN DUKIC
8. VICTOR FERNANDEZ
9. MICHAEL MUSITANO
10. TONY LEMEZINA
11. ANDY RAVANELLO
12. ANDREW YOUNG
13. TOMMY MILIN
14. .....
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. PAUL JONES

BLACKTOWN CITY

Red, black strpes
Alternative white

1. ALAN STROUD
2. HAYDEN BEGBIE
3. JASON CONNOLLY
4. DAMON LANGAN
5. GARY COMBERFORD
6. CRAIG MASON
7. STEFAN JEE
8. STEVEN BERRY
9. RANDELL EASTHORPE
10. SCOTT XUEREB
11. GEOFF GUNNING
12. MARTIN DRIENE
13. STAN SUMAN
14. PAUL BOURKE
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. ANDREW CREWS

SUNDAY -

WARRINGAH DOLPHINS

Blue, silver trim

1. PETER GUNNING
2. ROSS ETHERINGTON
3. GLENN STERREY
4. RICHARD MIRANDA
5. MARK BROWN
6. WAYNE PIERCE
7. PHIL MOSS
8. MARK BUTLER
9. SAM PANETTA
10. JOSE IRIATE
11. FRANK GIGLIOTTI
12. JOHN MCKIE
13. DAVID BATTEN
14. ANTHONY SERGAS
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. FRANCO CHIARELLA

Kingroo Kingroo Kingroo Kingroo Kingroo

ROCKDALE ILINDEN

Red and black
Alternative white, red trim

1. KEITH WARREN
2. DAVID SEGRETO
3. MICHAEL GRBEVSKI
4. ZORAN NAUMOVSKI
5. RICHARD BUCHANAN
6. GREG LEROND
7. MENDO RALEVSKI
8. GEORGE JOLEVSKI
9. BRUNO BEDDONI
10. STUART PORTER
11. SCOTT DEVERIDGE
12. SASHO LAZAREVSKI
13. KENNY BOSKOVSKI
14. SASHA TELISMAN
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. TONY KOSTANINOVSKI

ST GEORGE

Red, white trim
Alernative white

1. SEAN LAHIFF
2. VINCE SAVOKA
3. MATTHEW RICHARDSON
4. JASON MAMMONE
5. ANDRE SPNOVIC
6. FABIO MACOLINO
7. JIM ALEPHERIS
8. HEATH GOLDSTEIN
9. CHRIS CARD
10. GLENN BIOLLO
11. GREG CARLUCCIO
12. JOHN MARASSIONIS
13. TM GREENAWAY
14. STAN MEDANIC
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. STEVE CHRISTOPHOROU

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA

Red, yellow trim
Alternative yellow, red trim

1. B THURLOW
2. P CARTER
3. J CAVANAH
4. L DIMOV
5. Z JURIN
6. J NOWICKI
7. J SRIBINOVSKI
8. C MINOL
9. R NAUMOV
10. Z NASTEVSKI
12. A KASTEVSKI
12. L MACLOU
13. T MOJANOVSKI
14. .....
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. R MAZEVSKI

CROMER PARK 3pm, 1pm

EASTERN SUBURBS

Red-white, blue trm
Alternative white, blue trim

1. LES BIHARI
2. EDDIE TESORO
3. JOHN DEVENAY
4. ALEX ROBERTSON
5. DIMI GIOKARIS
6. TERRY PALAPANIS
7. CRAIG SHARPLEY
8. JOHN PILLERMAN
9. ERIC FERGUSON
10. PAUL HARRIOTT
11. ROBBIE JERKOVIC
12. BARRY WALKER
13. JOHN FOXMAN
14DECLAN MCEVOY
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. ANDREW PRENTICE

SATURDAY - JENSEN PARK 3pm, 1pm

SYDNEY MACEDONIA

Red, black trim
Alternative yellow, red trim

1. TONY AVELLINO
2. GEORGE SOURIS
3. JANI CAKOVSKI
4. ANTONY SURJAN
5. MARK REVELY
6. SCOTT BAILLIE
7. THEO KOTSIAS
8. GEORGE FERNANDEZ
9. SCOTT GILBERT
10. RISTE ILIESKI
11. SASO SPIROSKI
12. SASO BOSKOVSKI
13. RISTE ILIESKI
14. .....
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. .....

CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE

Royal blue, gold trim
Alternative gold, blue trim

1. ROSS PINTO
2. DAVID REZO
3. SPIRO HANTZIS
4. NICK ORLIC
5. STEVE SENTAS
6. KEN SLAVESKI
7. BURIM ZAJMI
8. TOM PONTIDAS
9. LOUIS DOUNIS
10. VLADO ZORIC
11. ANTHONY PARISON
12. NICK OUSTAMBASIDIS
13. KON TSAOUSIDIS
14. HARRY ADAMOU
15. .....
16. .....
17. .....
18. .....
19. .....
20. CHRIS CHRISTOPOULOUS

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Federation Division One News

ROUND FIVE PROMISES THRILLS AND SPILLS AS CLUBS GET DOWN TO SERIOUS BUSINESS

by PAUL GOODWIN

The Super Soccer weekend kicks off with excellent games on both days and keen supporters can take in as many as three matches if they can summon the stamina.

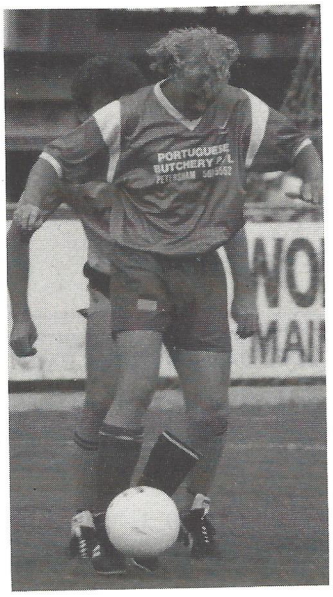
Saturday afternoon brings Dulwich Hill and Mount Pritchard together at Arlington Oval and what an encounter it promises to be.

Still searching for that elusive first win, but always hard to beat at Arlington, Dulwich Hill may include a new midweek signing from Super League side Rockdale in their line-up against the powerful Mounties.

There should be plenty of fireworks and Dennis Duarte will be anxious to put Madeira fans' minds at rest with a morale-boosting win against Glenn Fontana's Western Raiders.

At nearby Fraser Park Cyprus United entertain Polonia in a game they ought to win comfortably.

This is soccer, however, and anything could happen, but Joe Watson will be looking to hit the front in the competition after this particular outing.



Derek Caisley

Cyprus are mounting astrong challenge and have a good unit.

Arthur Petas and Jason Bennett are combining well ad the defence is very solid behind them.

In the evening at Pluim Park Central Coast take on Gladesville in what could prove to be a hard slog for both sides.

Next day the West Wanderers return to the Gabbie Stadium to tackle Liverpool City Yugal, and are bound to put on a good show against one of the really attractive teams in the section.

Goals are not necessarily going to be easy to come by, but good football will certainly be on the agenda.

Petersham Lusitanos hosts Mount Druitt at the Wills Ground and a high scoring game is in the offing for those who like to see the ball enter the net at both ends.

Having said that neither side will want to give goals away and the tussle should prove good value.

Lemnos are back at Potts Park for the visit of Auburn United who are firing now and capable of grabbing a hatful if the mood takes them.

Fabian Kadric should be getting into full stride by now.

Campbelltown are gong to make Granville Chile work hard for another win at Lynwood Park. It should be a good spectacle.

Andy Ferris seems to be back in touch for the visitors and his aerial supremacy will put Steve Blackburn and his men to the test.

It promises to be yet another top two days of soccer for those who can get out and about to the various games.

Close contests and upset results have been a feature so far and there is no reason why this weekend should be any different.

FEDERATION DIVISION ONE

SATURDAY APRIL 4

GRANVILLE CHILE v CENTRAL COAST Garside Pk	3pm 1pm
GLADESVILLE HSBY v CYPRUS UNITED Christie Pk	7pm 5pm

SUNDAY APRIL 5

AUBURN UNTD v CAMPBELLTOWN Mona Park	3pm 1pm
POLONIA v DULWICH HILL Chopin Park	3pm 1pm
LI'VPOOL YUGAL v LEMNOS/ALLSTARS Ernie Smith	3pm 1pm
MT DRUITT v WEST WANDERERS Popondetta Pk	3pm 1pm
MR PRITCHARD v PETERSHAM Cook Pk	3pm 1pm

INFO LINE RESULTS SERVICE

SUNDAY - WILLS PARK 3pm, 1pm

PETERSHAM LUS

White, red stripe

1. CUONG TU
2. DAVID KEVERN
3. ANTHONY FRIEDLI
4. ALLAN GOLDSWORTHY
5. DAVID BENNETT
6. CRAIG POOLE
7. CRAIG BASS
8. IVAN ELEK
9. DARREN STEPHENSON
10. GLENN JEFFERY
11. SEPP DISCH

RGK GARY TORRE

12. DAVE SAVAGE
13. TIM ANDERSON

MT DRUITT

Green, white, gold

1. DEREK JENKINS
2. DAVID CLOSE
3. MARK DOWNS
4. PAT AGIUS
5. DON CAMPBELL
6. SCOTT MCARDLE
7. TROY SHIPLEY
8. JOHN WHITE
9. CRAIG SMITH
10. WAYNE FARNSWORTH
11. DARREN PRATT

RGK PAUL ZARB

12. GEOFF CHEW
13. FRANCO COSENTINO

SATURDAY - PLUM PARK 7pm, 5pm

CENTRAL COAST

Red / blue trim
Alternative White, sky blue

1. JASON HOLMES
2. MARK DRYSDALE
3. PAUL CORBETT
4. MARK CURROW
5. GARY CHAPPLE
6. DALE EGGLETON
7. STEVN BARANY
8. VIC BOZANIC
9. PAUL ROBERTS
10. ANDREW SHARPE
11. JASON GRIBBLE
12. GODFREY FURRUGIA
13. DAVID BERRY

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.....
.....

20. BRUCE JAMES

GLADESVILLE HORNSBY

Gold, black trim
Alternative white / black / gold

1. SCOTT GEMMELL
2. ASHLEY WILLIAMSON
3. BRUCE WATT
4. GAVIN BOOTH
5. WARWICK TURPIN
6. JASON NIEUWENHOF
7. IAN WOOD
8. IAN DUNN
9. DAVID FLEMING
10. PAUL MAMO
11. KURT MORRISON

RGK PAUL VAN DER LEEDEN

12. STEVE MARANDO
13. TROY ELLIS

.....
.....
.....

SATURDAY - WENTWORTH PARK 3pm, 1pm

CYPRUS UNITED

Yellow
Alternative green

1. JOHN MYLONAS
2. NICK KOUTALISTRAS
3. GEORGE FOUNDAS
4. KERRY AGIASOTIS
5. PETER PAPOUTHIS
6. NICK PLATANIOTIS
7. JOE WATSON
8. STEVE KARAVATAKIS
9. ARTHUR PETAS
10. JASON BENNETT
11. GEORGE XATZITTOFIS
12. STEVEN CHILAS
13. PETER KITTOS
14. PAUL KYPRIANOU

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.....

POLONIA

White, red trim
Alternative yellow, red

1. GLEN TOWNSEND
2. DANIEL TILLINGHURST
3. BRAD DAY
4. RODNEY STEPPING
5. RODNEY WYATT
6. ADAM KWASNIEWSKI
7. KEVIN VELLA
8. BILLY GREEN
9. PAWEL STRASZEWSKI
10. BARRY MALONEY
11. MILAS KARAMPOUR

RGK LUIS BEJAR

12. WARREN WILLS
13. PETER TSILIANOS

.....
.....
.....

SATURDAY - ARLINGTON OVAL 3pm, 1pm

DULWICH HILL

Blue, white trim
Alternative yellow, blue

1. BILL KONESKI
2. RICARDO LIRA
3. JORGE JOHNSON
4. ZAYA JEBRAIEL
5. KEVIN GAFFNEY
6. PETER DAMESKI
7. DEREK CAISLEY
8. JOHN SHERRY
9. NORMAN TOME
10. ENNIO MORSEN
11. DENNIS DUARTE

RGK DAVID FITZSIMMONS

13. JERE MATOSIN
14. STEVE DUFFY

.....
.....
.....

MT PRITCHARD

Gold, black trim
White black trim

1. ROB CESARONE
2. GARRY HATTON
3. BRYCE WILLIAMS
4. ANGELO RAGUZ
5. ANTHONY DRIENE
6. GREG YEAMAN
7. LEO PINTOS
8. SENAF KUMSUZ
9. ALI NAGI
10. CARLOS VANEGAS
11. PAUL ROBAARD
12. CHARLIE IENCO
13. MARIO CORIO

.....
.....
.....

20. RON GISBOURNE

SUNDAY - LYNWOOD PARK 3pm, 1pm

CAMPBELLTOWN RAMS

Grey, Maroon trim

1. DAVID HAYES
2. IAN STODDART
3. STEVEN BLACKBURN
4. STEVE PAUL
5. RICHARD CELARC
6. JOHN CAMBURN
7. IAN WOTHERSPOON
8. DANNY VOLARICH
9. RAY CARNEY
10. PETER TREACY
11. VAUGHAN REYNOLDS

RGK ALAN AHERN

13. CONROY FILIES
14. VERNON PORTER

.....
.....
.....

GRANVILLE CHILE

White, black stripes
Alternative red, white

1. PAUL TOWNSON
2. JOHNATHON LANGAN
3. ROBERT TROVATO
4. WILLY PIRIZ
5. MARTIN ABI-ARRAGE
6. JASON COOPER
7. BRYAN COKELY
8. RUBEN LOCAPUTO
9. ANDY FERRIS
10. ALEX ARAUJO
11. PABLO GOMEZ

RGK HANS TROSTEL

12. TONY GOERGE
13. BORIS CONTRERIS

.....
.....
.....

SUNDAY - POTTS PARK 3pm, 1pm

LEMNOS ALLSTARS

White, blue trim
Alternative blue, white

1. MARIO SAIA
2. BILL FOTOPOULOS
3. JASON AIELLO
4. LOUIS TRIANTAFYLOU
5. GEORGE NAOMIS
6. BERNIE GODZIK
7. RICKY SOMBOLI
8. ALI REDA
9. SIMON BEAUFILS
10. JOHN KAKAKIOS
11. DARYL ZEIDERMAN

RGK JIM KONISTIS

12. SAM PANAGAKIS
13. PAUL GORJAN

.....
.....
.....

AUBURN UNITED

White, red trim
Alternative red, white, green

1. MEHMET SILKECI
2. JEFF GREGSON
3. MUSTAFA KADAYIFCI
4. TOM BAZDARIC
5. JOHN GREGSON
6. CARLOS DONOSO
7. BIROL SERTBAS
8. UGUR TASKIN
9. OZCAN CELIK
10. FABIAN KADRIC
11. CARLOS TAPIA

RGK HAYDAR ARSLAN

13. CRISTIAN ORTIZ
14. GURKAN TASDEMIR

.....
.....
.....

SUNDAY - GABBIE STADIUM 3pm, 1pm

WEST WANDERERS

Red, white trim
Alternative white, red

1. MARK AGIUS
2. DAVID COOK
3. MATTHEW CURMI
4. MARK MLANIC
5. LAWRENCE HALL
6. ROBBIE COOK
7. PAUL HUNTER
8. BILL MANNIX
9. GARY NEWSON
10. ANDREW CHARLWOOD
11. MARK MOFFETT

RGK PETER KASTERLAN

12. ADAM HAGGER
13. DANNY CERJAK

.....
.....
.....

LIVERPOOL YUGAL

Gold, blue trim
Alternative blue, gold

1. G WOODHOUSE
2. M ADANIAN
3. J RIZZOTTO
4. C MIHAS
5. R HARMAT
6. P WATKINS
7. S BATISTA
8. W APANIAN
9. A FOLLODOSA
10. T PERINICH
11. R LIECATA
12. D SARJEVIC
13. C ANAGNOSTOPOULOS

.....
.....
.....

20. M MILOSAVLJEVIC

West Wanderers, Cyprus United Set the Pace

writes PAUL GOODWIN

First Division followers have already enjoyed four weeks of entertaining football, before the other Divisions get under way and it is shaping up as a very even competition again this year.

Early favourites Dulwich Hill have struggled, registering just one score draw from their first four outings and three significant early losses.

Instead, West Wanderers and Cyprus United have set the pace and each has its own distinct style of soccer.

Quality players abound in this Division and every club has at least one star attraction, many have a lot more than that.

It's too early to write Dulwich Hill off, with coach Dennis Duarte faced with a big and talented squad. His new players Derek Caisley, John Sherry and Robin Younan may take a while to settle in and when the team is comfortable it should produce a string of good results. Player to watch - Norman Tome.

In the meantime un-beaten joint leaders West Wanderers, with three of their first four at the Gabbie, have begun brightly and they have an under-19 side which is hammering all comers too.

Allan Maher has assembled a slick outfit which is yet to concede a goal and plays as a complete team, no player hogging the limelight. Player to watch - Paul Hunter.

Cyprus United rely on Joe Watson, their famed player-coach, for their confidence on the park and have won three on end, including last weekend's 3-2 win over Dulwich Hill.

Players like Nick Plananiotis, Jason Bennett and Steve Karavatakis are shining brightly in games which delight the purist. Player to watch - Steve Chilas.

Mount Pritchard looked a polished side on their first three appearances at Cook Park, but they came unstuck at Mount Druitt on Sunday.

They have several top players yet to appear, but reliable men like Gary Hatton, Ali Nagi and Paul Robaard ensure stout performances week in and week out, which could lead to definite title prospects. Player to watch – Greg Yeaman.

Auburn United, which played last year as Southern Districts, have made a steady start and retain most of last season's squad.

Birol Sertbas is again a figurehead and new signing Fabian Kadric will be a big asset in attack.

Wins at Petersham and Mount Druitt were offset against a loss to Mount Pritchard, but they have yet to appear at home and won't greet Mona Park until the fifth round. Player to watch – Ozcan Celik.

Granville Chile are now under John Curran's guidance and going along nicely at the moment.

Beaten only narrowly by West Wanderers, they broke the ice with a win at the weekend and have Andy Ferris and Alex Araujo com-bining well up front right now. Player to watch – Jason Cooper.

Liverpool City Yugal, formed by a union of Liverpool and Yugal this year, won the Seven-a-Side trophy last month and are doing quite nicely at present.

Iliya Takacs has managed to work some magic with a reliable bunch of players, with Tony Perinich proving the surprise packet so far.

Opening with wins over Dulwich Hill and Mount Druitt. Liverpool are still sorting out a few problems, but could still add a second trophy to the sideboard with some consistency in later rounds. Player to watch – Greg Woodhouse.

Campbelltown have unearthed a real find in 17 year old local Conroy Filies who grabbed both goals in the Rams' debut win over Gladesville on Saturday night.

With many experienced players around him this outer western side may prove a big stumbling block to many this term. Player to watch – Steve Paul.

Petersham Lusitanos are still shaking off a list of injuries including goalkeeper Andrew Lacey, but have ability and must not be discounted.

Glenn Jeffery still has a canny eye for goals, while big signing Sepp Disch must be a major asset for them. Player to watch Ivan Eleck.

Think of Mount Druitt and inevitably one thinks of Wayne Farnsworth, the deceptively quick player-coach who rattled in three at Arlington Oval recently and leads another underrated side which does better on its travels quite often than at Popondetta. Player to watch – Troy Shipley.

Central Coast are a good bunch of local players capable of mixing it with the best and they have two wins from four outings, including the prized scalp of Dulwich Hill.

Losing only to Cyprus United, narrowly, the are a team to be feared anywhere. Player to watch – Jason Holmes.

Polonia came down from the top section during the recess and have managed a win and a draw to date, showing signs that they can make their way back in the fullness of time. Player to watch – Pauel Straszewski.

Gladesville-Hornsby lost many players during the summer and are working hard in their matches without much luck.Player to watch – Kurt Morrison.

Lemnos Allstars are a group of useful players who need a little time to settle in. Player to watch – Daryl Ziederman.

RESULTS FEDERATION DIVISION ONE

Round 1:		
Macarthur Rams vs Central coast	0-0	3-0
Lemnos Allstars Vs Cyprus United	0-0	0-1
West Wanderers Vs Polonia	4-0	9-0
Petersham Vs Gladesville Hby	2-2	3-1
Mt Pritchard Vs Granville Chile	1-1	2-1
Mr Druitt Vs Auburn United	0-1	1-0
Liverpool Yugal Vs Dulwich Hill	2-1	0-4
Round 2:		
Mt Pritchard Vs Auburn United	2-0	1-1
Central Coast Vs Dulwich Hill	1-0	1-2
Gladesville Hby Vs West Wanderers	0-1	0-5
Cyprus United Vs Campbelltown Rams	1-0	4-1
Polonia Vs Lemnos Allstars	1-0	2-0
Granville Chile Vs Petersham Lusitanos	3-3	0-3
Liverpool Yugal Vs Mt Druitt Town	1-0	1-5
Round 3:		
Central Coast Vs Cyprus United	0-1	1-2
West Wanderers Vs Granville Chile	1-0	5-0
Campbelltown Rams Vs Polonia	1-1	3-2
Lemnos Allstars Vs Gladesville Hby	1-1	0-1
Petersham Lus Vs Auburn United	2-4	0-1
Mt Pritchard Vs Liverpool Yugal	3-1	8-1
Dulwich Hill Vs Mt Druitt Town	5-5	5-3
Round 4:		
Polonia Vs Central Coast	1-3	1-3
Cyprus United Vs Dulwich Hill	3-2	0-5
Granville Chile Vs Lemnos Allstars	2-0	1-1
West Wanderers Vs Auburn United	0-0	2-3
Liverpool Yugal Vs Petersham Lus	1-1	1-0
Mt Druitt Vs Mt Pritchard	1-0	0-5

FED DIV 1 - GR 1

W Wanderers	4	3	0	1	0	6	0	10
Cyprus United	4	3	0	1	0	5	2	10
Mt Pritchard	4	2	1	0	1	6	3	8
Liverpool Yugal	4	2	1	0	1	5	5	8
Central Coast	4	2	0	1	1	4	2	7
Granville Chile	4	1	2	0	1	6	5	7
Auburn United	4	2	0	1	1	5	4	7
Campbelltn Rams	4	1	1	1	1	3	2	6
Petersham Lus	4	0	3	0	1	8	10	6
Mt Druitt	4	1	1	0	2	6	7	5
Polonia	4	1	1	0	2	3	8	5
Gladesville Hsby	4	0	2	0	2	3	6	4
Lemnos Allstars	4	0	1	1	2	1	4	3
Dulwich Hill	4	0	1	0	3	8	11	2

FED DIV 1 - GR 2

Dulwich Hill	4	4	0	0	0	16	4	12
Mt Pritchard	4	3	1	0	0	16	3	11
W Wanderers	4	3	0	0	1	21	3	9
Cyprus United	4	3	0	0	1	7	7	9
Campbelltn Rams	4	2	1	0	1	8	7	8
Auburn United	4	2	1	0	1	5	4	8
Petersham Lus	4	2	0	0	2	6	3	6
Mt Druitt	4	2	0	0	2	9	11	6
Gladesville Hsby	4	1	1	0	2	3	9	5
Central Coast	4	1	0	0	3	5	8	3
Polonia	4	1	0	0	3	5	15	3
Liverpool Yugal	4	1	0	0	3	3	17	3
Lemnos Allstars	4	0	1	0	3	1	5	2
Granville Chile	4	0	1	0	3	2	11	2

MARCHING BACK

A PAUL GOODWIN review

The old familiar team of Dez Marton, Richard Alagich and Fred Wall will once again be at the helm of the St George soccer ship this season, but in all other respects the club will have a totally new outlook.

With limited resources – a figure well below $100,000 has been allocated by the licensed club to support the soccer operation this year – a two year plan has been hatched to restore The Saints to former glories.

Now closely allied to the local St George Soccer Association, the new-look Super League club has a committee which includes Alf Howard and Bill Dennis from the junior body and former social club director Steve Koenig as its new chairman.

The plan is to bring on the local talent within the District and regain NSL status within a couple of seasons.

Prospects have never been brighter. Les Bordacs will continue as secretary for the time being and Steve Kaye will spearhead a lively promotions campaign.

With Council approval and District support, land at Barton Park is to be fully developed for junior teams to use, which will allow the Association to move its operations from Peakhurst Park.

The former apprenticeship scheme was allowed to lapse, but Marton and his team hope to get it going again in the near future.

All Under-17 players with the St George District will be dual registered this year, and the Association will get first call on their services at all times.

Keen players can play on Saturday for the Youth League side and back up in Super League Under-19s next day.

Dez Marton has a strong record with junior talent and is sure to do these youngsters a world of good.

In building for the future the coming campaign has not been forgotten, and, while there are a few big name signings for St George's return to the State League ranks, Dez is bound to force a competitive unit as usual.

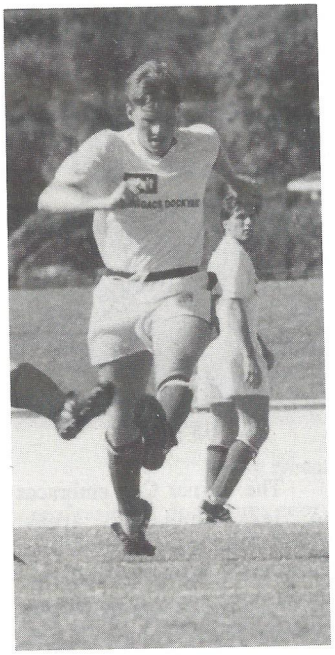
John Filan will be first choice 'keeper, when his international commitments permit.

Sean Lahif, still only 22 and back from a spell in Europe and a brief sojourn in Newcastle, will get many opportunities when John is absent.

Chris Card, a Saint of yesteryear, is back along with another former player, Heath Goldstein, who spent some time with Yugal.

Defender Matthew Richardson has shifted from Polonia and sweeper Jason Mammone has moved across from Marconi.

33-year-old Croatian Andelko Kulic, a recent arrival looks useful, and a mystery South African forward will be watched with great interest.



Matthew Richardson

Two players who were with Dez Marton at Manly North Shore last year have joined him, Tim Greenaway and Stan Medanic, but perhaps the biggest coup of all is the return of Favio Maculino.

Maculino, who was in the Under 17 squad in Italy, is a former apprentice on the comeback trail after sustaining Achilles heel damage in the World championship tournament.

He is, according to Marton, a great midfield talent, and is dual registered with the AIS until the end of their winter season in the ACT competition.

Those who underestimate the St George team may be in for a shock once the season gets into full swing.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR SOCCER CLUBS

Soccer Clubs in Australia can gain assistance in conducting a widespread membership drive.

They can call on the services of Paul Maindonald of Sydney, who has developed a membership evening with an agenda which includes introduction of leading officials and players of the club, along with films of past World Cup games.

For clubs without licensed premise the membership drive will give them the opportunity to increase membership towards obtaining a licensed club status.

Clubs with licensed premises can also benefit by increasing the football club membership which in turn will develop more customers /members for their licensed club.

Mr Maindonald said that one of the concerns in Soccer today is the loss of young players after all the money and effort spent coaching them.

They often go at the later stages of their secondary schooling.

In an effort to keep junior players and guide them over the bridge to senior football, the suggested membership drives will encourage involvement of parents, friends and supporters — which must be good for soccer.

Mr Maindonald advises he is available to act as a membership consultant to clubs throughout Australia, and can be contacted on telephone number 02 570 4896 evenings, or 018 210 982 or 02 211 5795 or by writing to PO Box X413 Haymarket NSW 2000.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

★ **Engage your club in a membership drive.**

★ **Gain new members, with family and friends joining for the future financial development of your club.**

★ **Keep your players by having their family and friends join in you club's activities.**

MEMBERSHIP EVENING WILL INCLUDE

- Soccer films
- Club history and achievements
- Introduction of key officials
- Concluding with light refreshments.

Phone PAUL MAINDONALD
Management Consultant
018 210 982 or 211 5795 or AH 02 570 4896

Those Magnificent School Entries

The highly successful schools competitions are already under way, involving senior boys and girls in the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup and Soccer Shield, as well as the bill Turner Cup Competition.

Turner Cup complements the senior competitions, covering boys aged 15 years and under.

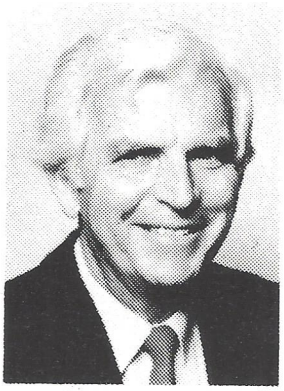
In fact it goes further than the other two competitions, as players from all education systems are involved.

At open level the Catholic and Independent systems run their own Cup competitions.

Last year no less than a remarkable 477 schools competed in the Turner Cup, with Westfields Sports High School winning the final 3-1 from Shailer Park from Queensland.

As a guide to the popularity of the competition, entries from the Sydney Region alone this year are only two schools short of 200!

Newcomers from the region are Erskine Park High School from the Outer Western Suburbs and Winmalee High School on the Lower Blue Mountains.



Bill Turner

The Turner Cup embraces no less than 12 areas: Queensland, Far North Coast, North West, New England, Mid North Coast, Newcastle/Hunter/Central Coast, Sydney Region, South Coast, Western NSW, Riverina, Southern Riverina/North East Victoria and ACT and NSW Surrounds.

Bill Turner, the originator of the excellent series, is one of a nine man executive, with Terry Hampton of Wallsend High School in Newcastle the Senior Co-ordinator.

Each region has its own co-ordinator, with a particular brief in the administration of the matches.

All concerned – administrators, coaches and referees – deserve every accolade for the work they have put in.

Turner Cup seeds were first sown in 1979 with a 34 school entry. By 1991 schools involved had multiplied 14 fold to 477.

A run through the entrants is an education in itself.

Begin with Bundaberg, Grace Lutheran, Clairvaux MacKillop, Brisbane Grammar and Pine Rivers State High, and slip out to Toowoomba Grammar and Beaudesert SHS.

Move down through Lismore High, St Johns Woodlawn and Trinity College Lismore, Coffs Harbour High, St Josephs Port Macquarie, across to Guyra, Tamworth and Barraba.

Then into the Hunter Valley and Newcastle, down into the growth area of the Central Coast, Sydney, and the South and West of the State.

The list seems endless. Out to Condobolin, Nyngan and even Broken Hill, through to Griffith, Albury, Wodonga and Wangaratta.

There will certainly be some great football played and tremendous mateship displayed by the time the semi-finals and finals come around on September 1/2.

Merewether High in big Success

Merewether High School from Newcastle have won the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup more times than any other school in the State, following their 1-0 win in last year's final at the Gabbie Stadium

Their opponent was Smith's Hill from Wollongong, which meant that the competition saw a final without a Sydney representative for the first time since 1980.

The game was a total contrast of styles, with the clever ball skills and close passing of Merewether opposed by the tight marking and long ball game of the Illawarra side.

Smith's Hill had to weather great passing and running into space early in the contest from Merewether's George Safouris, John Martinelli and Jon Brady.

Andrew Krause gave Merewether the lead just before halftime, when he capitalised on a through ball from Safouris.

Smith's Hill keeper Lupco Talevski was under pressure, but with five minutes remaining their "Player of the Series" Matt Taylor cleared off the line after Krause had headed over the keeper for what seemed would be a certain goal.

Sasho Dimovski almost had Smith's Hill back in the game, but the "Newcastle Blues" held on for their fourth title in as many finals.

In the girls' final, defending champions Bass Hill managed a 3-2 win over their Hunter Region rivals, Raymond Terrace.

Bass' Michelle Watson scored in the eighth minute, but Terrace's Michelle Prouten cancelled it out with a lovely left foot lob.

Watson was soon on target from a Joyce Bogdanek pass for a 2-1 lead, but then came an unfortunate happening for Bass.

A whistle from the crowd caused their defence to step aside and the ball trickled into their net.

Goalie Rachel Barnett inspired the entire Terrace defence as she foiled shots from Vicky Lumb, Kylie Fardell, Sonia Bogdanek and Lumb again.

Down to the last minute, and Watson lobbed the despairing Barnett to give the Sydneysiders victory.

SOCCER 92 TO 1,300 SCHOOLS

by Robert Wheatley, Development Officer.

The placement of development of the game high on the Federation's agenda for 1992 and beyond has ensured a dynamic growth in promotion of soccer throughout schools, together with an increase in coaching and refereeing courses.

Hi! Robert Wheatley (School's Development Officer) welcoming readers to the development page, a regular feature of SUPER SOCCER, where information will appear on a host of topics including promotional visits in schools, profiles of Super League development officers, results of major schoolboy and schoolgirl tournaments and a whole lot more.

To keep you fully informed of this important area for soccer's future let's take a closer look at the 'pre-season' work of clubs in relation to develoment.

In the eary stages of planning, possibly the most exciting initiative was the gathering together of nominated development officers (DOs) and coordinates from Super Leagues clubs.

Two seminars were devoted towards outlining the current program that is up and running with National Soccer League clubs.

They also covered what benefits would be gained for soccer in general and Super League clubs in particular of including Super League DOs into the scheme.

Stage 1 preparation for Super League DOs involved them in a 'Confident Speaking Seminar' where the importance of presentation and professionalism were underlined.

Players and coaches who will be representing their clubs were given opportunities to practice speaking to a group in a trial run.

This is aimed at increasing an individual's confidence when addressing a group.

Time was also spent in arming the DOs with a full array of soccer drills and activities that will become their coaching material, when mapping out school and club visits during the year.

The final part of practical experience will be accessed by joining the NSL DOs in their regular timetable of visits.

This period of training will precede the independent role of each Super League club in work they will carry out in close proximity to their local ground.

Each club will have an aim of creating or enhancing their district base of support depending on the current situation.

My experience has shown me that, while high profile players (Socceroos) are excellent public relation vehicles, the involvement of Super League clubs is essential for a full network of soccer personnel to exist to cater for the huge demand for soccer related activities

This has been borne out by the response to SOCCER 92, a professional document sent to 1,300 schools in the Sydney Metropolitan area outlining the services of the Federation in regard to promotional visits, coaching and refereeing courses.

Robert Wheatley, Development Officer

In my opinion the successful servicing of these numerous requests by Super League Clubs will forge a stronger link between clubs and schools – a necessary partnership for the longevity of the game in general.

Here's looking forward to 1992!

NEW SOUTH WALES SOCCER FEDERATION

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Monday April 20 to Friday April 24, 1992

BOYS AND GIRLS — AGED 10 TO 15 YEARS

Official Soccer Clinics to be conducted at Valentine Sports Park, Parklea, during school holidays.

This course will be under the direction of the State Director of Coaching.

* All Clinics Coaches are fully qualified
* Great facilities including first class fields and shooting net

Fees: ***(for 5 days)***

Morning Session — 9am - 12 noon: $55.00

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All day *(including lunch)* : $87.00

COACHING FEE INCLUDES A NEW "REAL" FOOTBALL AND T-SHIRT

For an application form, please phone the NSW Soccer Federation on 629 1800

NSW IS A DEVELOPMENT FORERUNNER!

by Steve Darby, National Development Officer.

Super Soccer is a great idea.

Why?

Because if soccer is to evolve and develop, then changes and innovation must occur, and often change is resisted through a lack of knowledge.

I believe Super Soccer can help spread knowledge and information throughout the soccer community, and help the game evolve into the dynamic entity it must be to survive in the 1990s.

If we resist change through ignorance, then we may end up like dinosaurs and disappear off the sporting map.

NSW is however a forerunner in the field of development, and not only does this state implement national policy in a professional manner but is innovative in state development programs.

NSW is served by two very professional and dynamic development officers in Robert Wheatley and Anissa Tann.

Both are graduates in physical education, qualified coaches and international players.

Their columns in this magazine will no doubt detail how they implement national development policy.

What is the national development program?

In summary our broad aims are to:

1. Increase the participation base of soccer.
2. Increase the quality and quantity of the beginner coach network.
3. Service the soccer network with resources eg. books, posters.
4. Implement a program of development officers from clubs to service schools.
5. Reduce the teenage drop-out rate in soccer.

So far the response to programs which have been put in place to achieve our aims have been excellent.

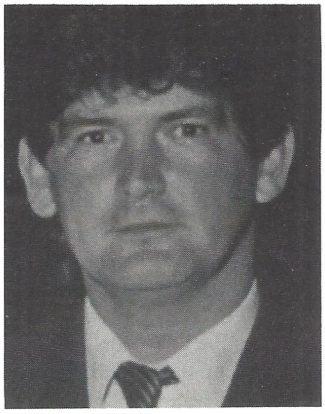
What I feel we must add to our formal program is 'heroes'.

Our best heroes are our players, Coca-Cola Soccer League players, Socceroos, ex-Socceroos, and leading state players.

The Australian Soccer Federation is trying to raise the profile of our internationals by sending them to functions, clinics and shopping centres.

Already this year the following Socceroos have made appearances: Ian Gray, John Filan, Milan Blagojevic, Moya Dodd, Anissa Tann, Paul Wade and Andrew Bernal.

If one of our Socceroos is not available because they are in a camp or working, then we have sent out some of our ex-greats including John Kosmina, Tony Pezzano, and Charlie Yankos.



Steve Darby

It is also encouraging to see our CCSL stars attending schools and shopping centres.

Soon I hope our top players will be instantly recognisable to the public, and our young players will be wearing Australian soccer shirts.

I strongly believe that Australian soccer is improving, the ultimate truth being the tremendous quality of our Aussie born players.

Moments like the semi-final in the 1991 World Youth Cup make all the long hours worked by the thousands of unseen people in the state worthwhile.

Soccer means different things to different people – it may well be a social recreation or a bit of fun right through to a passion.

However Walvin perhaps sums up soccer for many people.

"The basic character of soccer remains similar to its century old pattern. It remains the game of ordinary people, watched and played by more people than any other game. This has always been true of soccer .... it's the people's game".

I do not believe that any one person has a mortgage on ideas, so if you can think of any way to achieve the A.S.Fs Development aims, then please don't hesitate to write to me.

Clinics Popular at Wollongong

The inaugural Wollongong Wolves/BHP Summer Coaching Clinics proved a big success with local youngsters.

The clinics ran over three mornings in the School Holidays and saw over 70 children attend.

The clinics were organised by Bob Newman and sponsored by Lysaghts, a division of BHP and the majority of participants were BHP employees' children.

Mike Hollifield, Lysaght's Senior Coach and Wolves' BHP full-back, combined with Chris James, Wolves' Youth Development Officer, to provide the coaching with assistance from Richard Evans, Ian Gardiner and other Lysaghts players.

Charlie Yankos, Wolves presented all participants with a very professionally produced certificate.

Plans are well under way for Easter clinics.

The Directors of Wollongong City have announced their approval and support for continued school visits by Development Officer Chris James in the NSL off season.

James hopes to visit about 35 local primary schools for coaching and promotional work.

He will work closely with the local Junior Association as well as taking high profile players with him.

.....Chris James

OLYMPIC BIG BID

Sydney Olympic go into the final Coca-Cola league round just one point adrift of leaders Melbourne Croatia, but the latter on the face of it have the advantage.

On Sunday Olympic face mid-table traditional rivals Apia-Leichhardt, whilst Melbourne Croatia's opponent is lowly West Adelaide.

Even without the long term services of Socceroo striker Alistair Edwards, Olympic have been steadily improving.

On Friday night, after successive wins over Melbourne Croatia and Brisbane United, a 7,000 strong crowd at Austral Park saw Newcastle Breakers crash 4-1 to Olympic.

The two goals that Hong Kong international Tim Bredbury helped himself to brought him level on the scoring table with South Melbourne's Kim Taliadoros.

Bredbury's future is in his own hands, as Taliadoros is suspended and cannot increase his tally.

Apia's display had coach Manfred Schaefer spitting chips.

Not only was the 1-1 draw with Brisbane United unconvincing in addition it took all the skill of keeper Tony Franken to hold out strong chances from Robert Markovac and Jim McDonagh.

Parramatta Melita did Olympic a favour by holding leaders Melbourne Croatia scoreless at Melita Stadium.

This was a very tough encounter.

George Baldock

It is with sadness that we record the sudden passing of George Baldock at the age of 44 years.

Mr Baldock was widely respected as president of the Southern Districts Soccer Football Association, and also for his work for Sydney Branch.

We convey heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Sandra, and the family.

Aussie Big Brothers at Luton

Two young Australian footballers, David Magrone and Matthew Heighway, recently had the chance to experience the strength of English football when they had a spell with Luton Town under the Big Brother Movement Sponsorship scheme.

18-year-old defender David Magrone was an apprentice with famed St George, and has turned out with the Port Hacking club.

His aim is now to gain a place with Marconi Fairfield.

Heighway – no relation to ex-Liverpool star Steve – is a central striker who joined up with NSW Super League club Blacktown City after being a junior product of Woy Woy and the NSW Central Coast representative teams.

Says young David: "It was hard to believe that Matthew and I, two young Australians, were at home one day with Mum and Dad, and on the next were 20,000 kilometres away in England.

"The trip was built up before we left as 'the chance of a lifetime,' and I found that it ended up as nothing short of that."

But their arrival at Heathrow Airport was full of drama.

The pair were held up for three hours on the suspicion of being professional footballers – without working visas!

The problem was however overcome, and they were soon being shown around Luton Town Football Club by chief scout, Ron Howard.

"Both Matthew and I had never seen such facilities for one club, and yet for the next five weeks we would be using them our very own selves," said David.

"I have watched British football on television, but now there we were in the thick of things.

"And the difference between Britain and Australia in the level of professionalism and speed was very noteworthy."

The Aussie lads were immediately involved in football for five or six days of the week.

Thursday was college day for the apprentices, while Sunday was their only rest day.

The professionals' day off depended upon whether there was a midweek fixture, or whether they were named in the first team squad for the league game.

"There was nothing betwen the apprentices in skill," David commented.

"They had been together for some time and were so organised.

"Maybe they lacked a little in fitness compared with the professionals because they had less training."

He was struck by the glamour life led by the pros, but he soon observed that the football life did not start out that way.

"Being an apprentice is the absolute pits – they have all the dirty chores.

"Yet this enables them to get close to the stars of the game, and in our case we were lucky enough to be in contact with many professionals and we were particularly impressed with Mark Pembridge and Ceri Hughes."

David was lucky enough to see his favourite team, Tottenham Hotspur, play twice.

He was amongst the 39,000 crowd at White Hart Lane for the game against Arsenal, ad also witnessed Tottenham-Liverpool midweek.

On the latter occasion the pair had access to the Players' Lounge after the game, meeting up with such superstars as Gary Lineker, Dean Saunders and Paul Gascoigne.

In addition, Luton manager David Pleat took the time to seek out the Sydney pair – a gesture that was very much appreciated by them.

Said David: "Friendships were in abundance in England, due to the nature of the people.

David Magrone

"We stayed in digs, therefore becoming extremely close to the people we stayed with.

"We were able to get together with many people through that family.

"We also met players that helped Matthew and I to adjust to their way to life.

"In the end we both were very sorry to leave all our wonderful memories behind, yet I am sure we are keeping them for future reference.

"I am looking forward to taking the opportunity to later return to Luton.

"The trip sponsored by the Big Brother Movement as a contribution to strengthening the bonds between the two nations was most enjoyable in terms of my future career prospects.

"It has made me determined to improve and contribute to Australia's football prospects, both nationally, and perhaps internationally."

David classed Luton as "a well organised club that makes you feel welcome."

And he emphatically asserts that they certainly have some very talented youngsters about the 20 to 21 years bracket.

At home in Sydney David Magrone has come under the influence of such coaches as former Socceroo coach Frank Arok and his assistant Richard Alagich, as well as having progressed through the mighty Sutherland Shire nursery under Max Groll.

As David Magrone seeks to further his football career, he still looks back on that five week spell in England as "the chance of a lifetime."

Umbro Youth League will be a Cracker

written by Ian Marriott

The 1992 UMBRO Youth League gets under way on Saturday March 28 and all the indications are that it is likely to be one of the best seasons ever for the Sydney Branch organised competition.

Over the years the UMBRO Youth League has quickly developed into the most prestigious competition in the country for elite players, and deservedly so.

Youth League is the stepping stone from junior football into the professional ranks of both Super League and National Soccer League, as well as for national teams and in ever increasing numbers, big European contracts.

Many of our current crop of Young Socceroos have been developed in the UMBRO Youth League, including household names such as David Seal, Brad Maloney, Paul Okon, Mark Bosnich, George Sorras and Robert Stanton.

During the next twelve months, no doubt another rising band of starlets will be identified as they begin to make their presence felt in the competition.

Who do you tip to win the UMBRO Youth League in 1992?

That is the question on everyone's lips at this time of the year.

Well here are a few thoughts which will no doubt promote some healthy discussion.

Traditionally the Coca-Cola Soccer League clubs dominate the under 17 competition in Division One, and I can see no reason why this is likely to change in 1992.

The word around the grounds is that APIA Leichhardt have put together a rather formidable squad of players and they could be favoured to win the age bracket.

In order to do so they will first need to overcome the challenges of Blacktown City who I have seen in action and look to be a side of some quality, and Sydney Olympic, who are always a tough opponent, particularly under the watchful eye of the highly competent Stan Gabriel.

Sydney Croatia is another which is likely to be a force to be reckoned with and they have the benefit of being able to use players who may have played in their "Colts" NSL under 19 team.

Generally the under 17 competition is very difficult to make firm predictions for as there are so many variables which need to be taken into account.

The previous years under 15 and/or 17 results can not be taken as any real guide due to the two year gap and the strange rules which exist in relation to the use of players who have been involved at NSL level.

This is not the case however in the under 15s and no doubt St George will prove to be the team to beat in this age group with Blacktown City breathing down their necks all the way.

For my money the 1991 St George under 14s was one of the best Youth League teams I have ever seen in action.

The Macarthur's demise in the First Division leaves a big question mark as to just who will finish in the final two positions in First Division and challengers will be coming thick and fast from Sydney Olympic, Marconi, APIA, Melitia Sutherland and Southern Districts.

The dark horses may well be the two newcomers Banks-Sydney Croatia and Gladesville also must be considered strong chances.

In division two, Macarthur must be considered favourites and Nepean will also provide tough opposition along with Blacktown Association, Southern and Eastern, and Canterbury.

Marconi are the hot favourites in the under 14s having won the competition last season.

Also being current State Champions, they have gained three highly rated state players and hence you would expect them to do it in a canter.

St George however will have something to say about that and they will no doubt still have bad memories of last year's finals when they were twice beaten by Second Division Canterbury.

After having Marconi on the ropes they allowed them back into the match, and eventually lost on penalties.

It was a cruel blow to a team which played some outstanding soccer during the season and deserved their minor premiership victory.

Like Marconi, St George appear much stronger this year and they will prevent this age bracket being a one horse race.

Unfortunately Nepean are no longer in Division One and hence once again there is a big question as to just who will fill the final positions.

Southern Districts just snuck in last year when they beat Marconi in the final match of the premiership rounds, and Gladesville will be looking to go one better this year along with Sutherland.

The big improvers will be Blacktown City, APIA, who simply flew in the second round last season, Sydney Olympic Melita Eagles and Sydney Croatia.

Once again the dark horses have to be Bankstown and Illawarra.

Division Two will also prove to be closely contested with Southern and Eastern my tip to do particularly well along with Nepean, Macarthur, Manly Warringah, Avala, Granville, Rockdale, Southern Branch and of course the giant killers,

UMBRO YOUTH & JUNIOR LEAGUE

RESULTS & TABLES

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CALLS CHARGED AT THE RATE OF
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Gilbert Pilots Sydney Macedonia

It only took six minutes for striker Scott Gilbert to put Sydney Macedonia on course to win the NSW Super League Seven-a-Side final at the Gabbie Stadium.

He blasted in a penalty kick after Antony Surjan had been brought down in the Avala box, and followed up by pounding on a loose ball to score after Avala goalkeeper Dragan Pupovac had parried and Scott Ashton attempted to tidy up.

The ultimate 4-1 victory brought Sydney Macedonia a cheque for $5,000, with Avala claiming the $1,500 runners-up prize.

With the day's heat well on the wane, the final produced football worthy of the occasion, even after taking into account the three goal differences between the sides.

Avala quickly replied with a goal from Boban Ivastinin after Gilbert collected his second.

But Sydney Macedonia were galloping away again when Zoki Adioski finished off from a breakaway right wing attack, and just on time Scott Baillie added a fourth.

Last year the Sevens was won by Warringah, and, although they reached the semi-finals, they dipped out 2-0 to ultimate winners Sydney Macedonia.

The first goal came from Surjan, who switched the ball onto his left foot and beat Peter Gunning low down from 20 metres.

Adioski finished things off with a goal from a similar distance into the second half.

Warringah might have salvaged some more pride had Ross Etherington not missed with his penalty shot.

Canberra Metro flattered only to deceive when they went down 3-0 to Avala in the second semi-final.

Andy Ravanello looked the goods on skills, but the scoring was left to Avala's giant Peter Vukmirovic (2) and Ivastinin.

Vukmirovic scored a penalty and a late goal, with Ivastinin providing the perfect cross to set up Vukmirovic's goal.

Visitors West Wallsend gained a 1-0 win over last year's NSW premiers Sutherland Shire, after going down 2-0 to the Dolphins in the first round.

The other Newcastle side, Highfields Azzurri, gave a good account of themselves, going down by the only goal of the match to the distinguished Canberra Metro.

Illawarra's Wests Figtree shocked with the ease of their first round 3-0 win over West Wallsend in the second game of the day, whilst Cringilla United was even on goals with Blacktown City, the NSW 1991 Grand Final winners, but lost on the corner kick count.

ROUND 1

Sutherland 0, Warringah 2. Wests/Figtree 3, West Wallsend 0. Adamstown 3c, Eastern Suburbs 1c. Sydney Macedonia 1g 1c, Canterbury 1g. Blacktown 1, Wollongong Macedonia 2. Avala 3, Cringilla 0. Canberra Metro 1, St George 2. Rockdale 2c, Highfields 0c.

ROUND 2

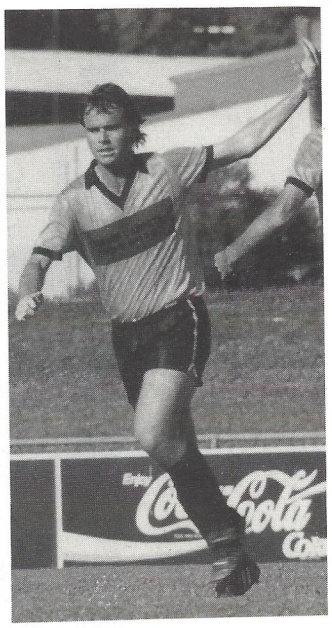
West Wallsend 1, Sutherland 0. Warringah 2, Wests/Figtree 0. Canterbury 2g 2c, Adamstown 2g. Eastern Suburbs 0, Sydney Macedonia 1. Cringilla 1g, Blacktown 1g 8c. Wollongong Macedonia 1, Avala 2. Highfields 0, Canberra Metro 1. St George 2, Rockdale 1.

SEMI FINALS

Sydney Macedonia 2, Warringah Dolphins 0. Avala 3, Canberra Metro 0.

FINAL

Sydney Macedonia 4, Avala 1.



Scott Gilbert (Sydney Macedonia)

Liverpool City Yugal Draw First Blood

Liverpool City Yugal claimed the first 1992 NSW Federation competition to be decided when they defeated West Wanderers 3-0 in the Division One Seven-a-Side at Gabbie Stadium on February 23.

With victory went the handsome Cup and a $1,500 cheque, and it was great for the crowd to see such fine exponents of the game as Greg Woodhouse and Rene Licata in action.

Burly Woodhouse, the former Sydney Croatia and Socceroo goalkeeper, and Licata, the ex-Marconi Fairfield favourite, were amongst the stars for their side.

Licata netted twice and Tony Perinich once as they crushed West Wanderers 3-0 in the final.

Victory was sweet for coach Ilija Takacs, the former NSW representative and Yugal midfield star.

West Wanderers were unlucky to lose their motor man Andrew Charlwood for the final due to injury.

But coach Allan Maher could hardly have been unhappy with the performance of his squad, as well as the perhaps unexpected $500 cheque.

They excelled right up to the final, with players like Matthew Curmi, Mark Agius, Gary Newsom and Mark Mofett giving the games all they had.

Over 1,500 were at the ground on the day, with the afternoon session producing the odd fine spell of weather, punctuated by both light and very heavy showers.

The Campbelltown Rams surprised by spiritedly fighting their way into the semi-finals as beaten tournament favourites.

It was pleasing to welcome Illawarra sides Corrimal and Balgownie.

Corrimal were coached by the great Adrian Alston, the one time Socceroo and St George striker, who starred in his day with English First Division club, Luton Town.

The Coast sides demonstrated plenty of class, and it will be pleasing to see such great outfits in future Waratah State Cup encounters.

They could come to grips with clubs from Sydney, Northern NSW, the ACT and the NSW Amateurs.

ROUND 1

Liverpool 4, Granville 0, Polonia 0 & corners Cyprus 0, Corrimal 0 & corners Auburn 0, Campbelltown 1, Lemnos 0, Mt Druitt 3, Mt Pritchard 0, Central Coast 0, West Wanderers 1, Balgownie 1, Petersham 2, Dulwich Hill 2, Gladesville 0.

ROUND 2

Polonia 3, Granville 2, Liverpool 4 Cyprus 0, Campbelltown 1 & corners, Corrimal 1, Auburn 0, Lemnos 1, Mt Pritchard 0, West Wanderers 4, Mt Druitt 1 Central Coast 2, Dulwich Hill 5, Petersham 0, Gladesville 0, Balgownie 2.

SEMI-FINALS

Liverpool City Yugal 3 Campbelltown 1, West Wanderers 2, Dulwich Hill 0.

FINAL

Liverpool City Yugall 3, West Wanderers 0.
LIERPOOL: Woodhouse, M Apanian, Batista, Mihas, Licata, Perinich, W Apanian.
WEST WANDERERS: Agius, Cook, Milnac (Newsom), Hunter, Hagger (Curmi) Moffett, Mannix.

Umbro ... from p 22

As for the Under 13s, well that is anyone's guess and again the previous year's form cannot be taken too seriously.

Generally clubs such as Marconi, Blacktown City, St George and Sutherland will field very strong squads in this age group but there is room for surprises.

Remember, play hard but always play fair, and above all enjoy your game.

Look at development as being far more important than winning or losing.

Remember that, in a few years time when you are trying to get a first grade contract, the coach will not care about how many competitions you won or lost.

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